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# MEET THE BIRD

## Feathers

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### TERMS TO KNOW

**feather**..... structure made of a shaft, vane, barbs, and barbules; designed to help birds fly and keep them warm and dry

**contour feathers** .....the feathers that form the outer shape of a bird

**down feathers** .....soft feathers that are found under contour feathers

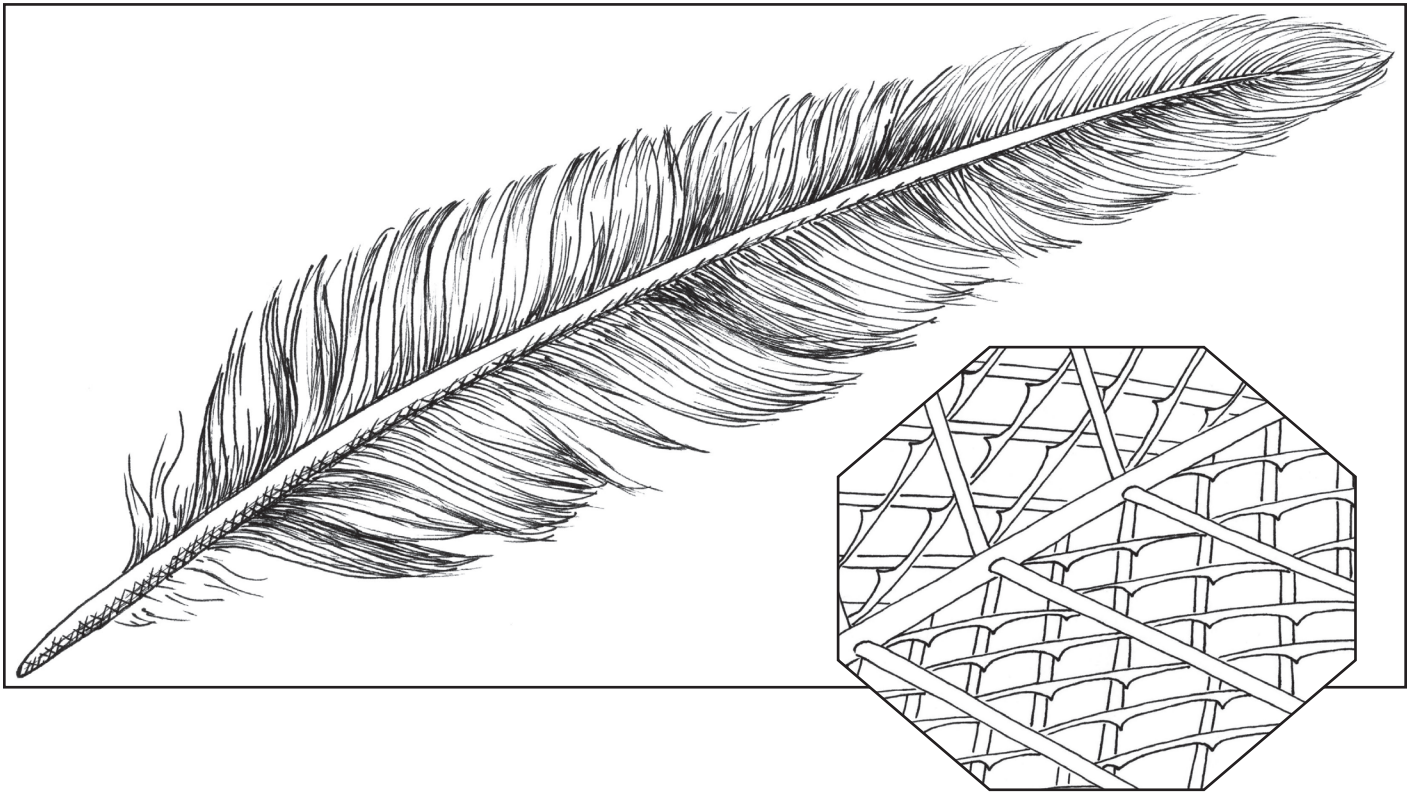
**bristles**.....hair-like feathers found near the eyes and mouths of a bird

### COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What sets birds apart from all other creatures? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the purpose of contour feathers? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Describe the difference between flight contour feathers and body contour feathers. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What kind of feathers fill the space between contour feathers and down feathers?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What is the purpose of down feathers? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What do bristles help birds do? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What are the two ways that birds can get their coloring? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Compare true pigment and reflected light. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Describe the difference between recognizing and identifying a bird. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. What are the four basic features of birds to look for when observing? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# LABEL THE PARTS OF THE FEATHER

A bird's feather consists of a shaft, vane, barbs, and barbules.



## BIRD FACTS

### Common Grackle (Page 48)

Bird Family: \_\_\_\_\_

Habitat: \_\_\_\_\_

Call or Song: \_\_\_\_\_

Distinguishing Characteristic: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### European Starling (Page 49)

Bird Family: \_\_\_\_\_

Habitat: \_\_\_\_\_

Call or Song: \_\_\_\_\_

Distinguishing Characteristic: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_